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- V. Please Allow the Word of God to guide your prayers:

2 Corinthians 1:11 "you also joining in helping us through your prayers, so that thanks may be given by many persons on our behalf for the favor bestowed on us through the prayers of many."

- A. Ask God to bless Richard in his ministry here in the U.S. and throughout the world

Numbers 6:24-26

- 24 The LORD bless you, and keep you;*
- 25 The LORD make His face shine on you,*
- And be gracious to you;*
- 26 The LORD lift up His countenance on you,*
- And give you peace.'*

- B. Pray for lasting fruit in Richard's ministry - both in Nigeria and Cameroon

Isaiah 55:11

- 11 So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth;*
- It will not return to Me empty,*
- Without accomplishing what I desire,*
- And without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.*

- C. Please intercede on behalf of Richard that God would protect him from the attacks of the world, the flesh and the devil. They all hate and despise his testimony and his ministry.

Psalms 121:7-8

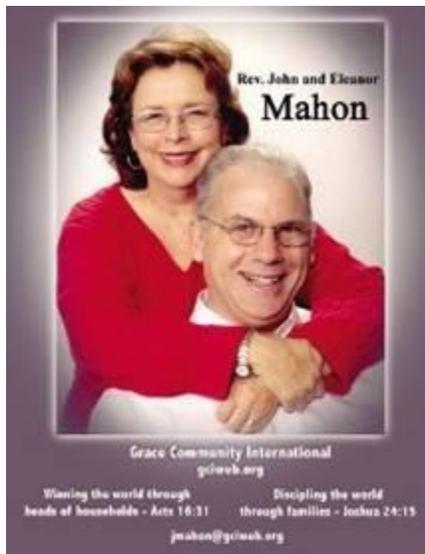
- 7 The LORD will protect you from all evil;*
- He will keep your soul.*
- 8 The LORD will guard your going out and your coming in*
- From this time forth and forever.*

D. Ask that God would bless the ministry materially, that we might, in turn, bless those to whom we minister.

Your gifts make possible both the men and the materials which bless the churches of Nigeria, Cameroon, Russia and beyond. As we raise support for the ministry year 2018, ask God to bless GCI that we might in turn bless ministers and churches on foreign fields.

Luke 6:38

- "Give, and it will be given to you.*
- They will pour into your lap a good measure – pressed down, shaken together, and running over.*
- For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return."*



Dear Prayer Warriors,

This Dispatch is dedicated to the ministry of GCI Board of Directors member Richard Smith. Each point on this dispatch will track the attached pictures.

I. Richard Smith – co-laborer in the harvest fields of the world

I have known Richard since he was a student at Oklahoma State University back in the 80's. He has always been a faithful Bible teacher, team member and witness for Christ. It is a privilege and honor to travel with him and minister with him in the harvest fields of the world. Be it Kenya, Nigeria or Cameroon Richard is a hard-working Bible teacher.



II. Generous

Because of your faith, prayers and generosity we never arrive on the mission field empty-handed. For many it would be enough to travel to another country, but the generosity of Richard and Kathy Smith compel them to join us in bringing Bibles, Bible study aids and Bible reference works for pastors, Bible teachers and student workers.



III.

Meeting the needs of pastors – Bibles

Pictured is just one of many pastors and ministers who received leather study Bibles because of the generosity of Richard Smith



IV. & V. Meeting one on one with pastors

Richard has walked with God in the military, as a university student, as a career engineer, as a husband and father. This wealth of experience makes him an important resource to pastors and ministers.



VI, VII. & VIII. Committed to the ministry of the local church

Richard is both a member and an elder in his church. In addition, he teaches a Sunday school class and meets one-on-one in discipling young professionals in his church. When on the mission field, he simply continues this same commitment to the building up of the local church.



IX - X. Training Leaders

Richard is unique in the breadth of his experience in the Christian life – military, collegian, business and professional, church and mission work. As such, he is uniquely qualified to train young professionals on the mission field. He is indeed the finished product. It is a privilege to minister with a man who can say with confidence from life experience – “This is how you do it from beginning to end.”



I close this email, as always, with a deep and abiding thankfulness for your sacrificial and effectual prayers, which empower and drive this ministry ever forward in the cause of Christ.

By His mercy,
II Corinthians 4:1
Rev. John S. Mahon
Grace Community Int. -

Please allow me to close this dispatch with a hymn from my prayer notebook that has been especially meaningful to me...

(Psalms 104:33-34 "I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being. Let my meditation be pleasing to Him; As for me, I shall be glad in the LORD.")

Link to music/tune for this hymn:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LKynnhA4yQw>

Depth of Mercy

Depth of mercy! Can there be
Mercy still reserved for me?
Can my God His wrath forbear,
Me, the chief of sinners, spare?

*I have long withstood His grace,
Long provoked Him to His face,
Would not hearken to His calls,
Grieved Him by a thousand falls.*

I have spilt His precious blood,
Trampled on the Son of God,
Filled with pangs unspeakable,
I, who yet am not in hell!

*I my Master have denied,
I afresh have crucified,
And profaned His hallowed Name,
Put Him to an open shame.*

Whence to me this waste of love?
Ask my Advocate above!
See the cause in Jesus' face,
Now before the throne of grace.

*Jesus, answer from above,
Is not all Thy nature love?
Wilt Thou not the wrong forget,
Permit me to kiss Thy feet?*

If I rightly read Thy heart,
If Thou all compassion art,
Bow Thine ear, in mercy bow,
Pardon and accept me now.

*Jesus speaks, and pleads His blood!
He disarms the wrath of God;
Now my Father's mercies move,
Justice lingers into love.*

Kindled His relentings are,
Me He now delights to spare,
Cries, "How shall I give thee up?"
Let the lifted thunder drop.

*Lo! I still walk on the ground:
Lo! an Advocate is found:
"Hasten not to cut Him down,
Let this barren soul alone."*

There for me the Savior stands,
Shows His wounds and spreads His hands.
God is love! I know, I feel;
Jesus weeps and loves me still.

*Pity from Thine eye let fall,
By a look my soul recall;
Now the stone to flesh convert,
Cast a look, and break my heart.*

Now incline me to repent,
Let me now my sins lament,
Now my foul revolt deplore,
Weep, believe, and sin no more

Charles Wesley *Born:* December 18, 1707, Epworth, Lincolnshire, England.; *Died:* March 29, 1788, London, England Charles Wesley wrote over 6,000 hymns. Like most hymnists, his works were frequently altered. In the preface to the 1779 *Collection of Hymns for the Use of the People called Methodists*, his brother [John](#) wrote: **I beg leave to mention a**

thought which has been long upon my mind, and which I should long ago have inserted in the public papers, had I not been unwilling to stir up a nest of hornets. Many gentlemen have done my brother and me (though without naming us) the honor to reprint many of our hymns. Now they are perfectly welcome to do so, provided they print them just as they are. But I desire they would not attempt to mend them, for they are really not able. None of them is able to mend either the sense or the verse. Therefore, I must beg of them these two favors: either to let them stand just as they are, to take things for better or worse, or to add the true reading in the margin, or at the bottom of the page, that we may no longer be accountable either for the nonsense or for the doggerel of other men.